



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
www.ellington-ct.gov

Tel. 860-870-3120 Town Planner's Office Fax. 860-870-3122

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019, 7:00 PM
TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT**

PRESENT: Chairman Rebecca Quarno, Vice Chairman David Bidwell, Regular Members Sean Dwyer (arrived at 7:07 PM), Robert Zielfelder, James Gage, Laurie Burstein (arrived at 7:04 PM) and George Nickerson, and Alternate Ann Harford

STAFF: Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner and Barbra Galovich, Recording Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Rebecca Quarno called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (On Non-Agenda Items): None

III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

Chairman Quarno requested to go out of agenda order and address item 1b first.

1. Sustainable Ellington Initiative
 - b. 2.7 Provide Education on Water Conservation

Mr. Dan Meaney, Director of Public Affairs from Connecticut Water Company joined the meeting to discuss the booth the Commission will host at the Farmers' Market Green Day on October 5, 2019. Mr. Meaney stated he is an Ellington resident and is looking forward to helping the Commission with the booth. He will bring promotional products to hand out such as water conservation kits, which can also be requested on the Connecticut Water Company's website by customers (www.ctwater.com/conservation). He asked if they would rather concentrate on indoor or outdoor water conservation. The Commission agreed that both are equally important and asked if he could bring handouts for each. They requested Ms. Houlihan proceed with purchase of personalized magnets and/or coloring books as booth giveaways.

Alternate Harford asked Ms. Houlihan to provide Ms. Dianne Trueb, Farmers' Market Master, a description of what the booth will highlight for the Market newsletter.

Ms. Houlihan will provide a table and tablecloth, and look into a banner. Chairman Quarno and Commissioners Dwyer and Burstein volunteered to help work the booth.

- a. 2.5 Create a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory

Ms. Houlihan has not heard back from faculty at UCONN about her request for student resources to help with creating a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory. As for the Ellington resident that's attending Kingswood Oxford, he decided to complete a project at Crystal Lake.

The Commission discussed the first two pages of the City of Meriden's Natural Resource Inventory along with draft introductions from Commissioner Gage and Ms. Houlihan. Chairman Quarno suggested they review Sections 2a and 2b next month.

2. Update – Ellington Hockanum River Committee: Harford/Nickerson – Leads

Alternate Harford stated that volunteers trimmed the trails for the evening walk event organized by the Trails Committee. There was a good turnout. She explained a tripping incident along a portion of the trail. She noted plans to bring in bark mulch and volunteer efforts to clean up trash along the river.

- a. Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee – Monthly agenda/minutes
- b. Memo from First Selectman's Office pertaining to vote on DR Trimmer

Alternate Harford stated that she will attend training on use of the DR Trimmer, which will be provided by the Public Works Department.

3. Report - Working Farmland Preservation Program: Gage/Staff – Leads

There was nothing to report.

4. Report - Open Space Preservation Program: Gage – Lead

Commissioner Gage explained the action by the Board of Selectmen, at their last meeting, to waive back taxes on the Pearl property should the Northern Connecticut Land Trust (NCLT) purchase the property.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

- 1. FY 19-20 Budget Expenditure Update
- 2. Approval of the August 6, 2019 regular meeting minutes

MOVED (HARFORD) SECONDED (ZIELFELDER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2019 AS WRITTEN.

- 3. Correspondence:
 - a. CIRMA – Understanding Workplace Violence & Prevention Strategies – Town of Ellington Employees, Board, Commission and Committee Members, October 29, 2019, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, location: TBD

CIRMA will conduct a seminar on understanding workplace violence and prevention strategies on October 29, 2019. Employees and commissioners are encouraged to attend.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (DWYER) SECONDED (BIDWELL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING AT 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbra Galovich, Recording Clerk